



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR
REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

Administrative Action

JUDY BETH WELBORN, R.N.
License No. 26NR09615000

**FINAL ORDER OF
DISCIPLINE**

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE
OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Judy Beth Welborn ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), licensees are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses.
3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), licensees are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.
4. On or about May 20, 2010, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial license renewal for the period of June 1, 2010 through

May 31, 2012, and Respondent's license was then renewed by the Board through May 31, 2012.

5. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2010," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. Respondent answered "No" to the question.

6. In response to a letter sent by the Board on or about September 23, 2010, requesting an explanation of why she did not complete her continuing education requirement, Respondent sent a letter to the Board explaining that she misread question #2, and she was obtaining her required continuing education credits.

7. On or about March 31, 2011, the Board sent a letter to Respondent, advising that she had not fulfilled the continuing education requirement for the 2010 license renewal and that she was required to submit, within 7-10 business days, proof of completion of 30 hours of continuing education.

8. On or about December 9, 2011, the Board sent a third letter to Respondent requesting that she provide within thirty (30) days, either proof of successful completion of 30 hours of continuing education credits or submission of her active license.

9. To date, Respondent has not complied with the Board's continuing education requirement.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, completion of the required 30 hours of continuing education

for the two year period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), which subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on March 30, 2012, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license until she demonstrated completion of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education. A copy of the Order was forwarded to respondent by certified and regular mail to respondent's address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline by providing documentation of 30 hours of continuing education completed from March 23, 2011 through April 20, 2012. Inasmuch as respondent satisfied the deficiency in continuing education for the June 1, 2008-May 31, 2010 renewal period, the Board determined that suspension was no longer applicable, however, inasmuch as respondent did not timely complete her continuing education obligation for the 2008-2010 renewal

cycle, the findings of fact and conclusions of law in the Provisional Order are to be finalized.

THEREFORE, it is on this 19th day of June, 2012

ORDERED that:

1. The conclusion that respondent acted in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), and consequently in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h), is hereby affirmed.

2. Respondent may not use the 30 credit hours of continuing education submitted to meet the continuing education obligation of the 2008-2010 renewal cycle, and belatedly completed from March 23, 2011 through April 20, 2012, to satisfy the continuing education of the June 1, 2010 - May 31, 2012 renewal cycle.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Patricia Murphy PLD APRN
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN
President